

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, as follows and consider the subsequent remarks/arguments. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A stand-up plastic bag, comprising:
 - (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof;
 - (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
 - (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, and the sides configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation;
 - (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag; and
 - (e) a reclosable device located proximate the bag opening, such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the bag, wherein the bag opening may be selectively opened and closed.
2. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein said front, rear and sides and said bottom portion are composed of a multi-layered film of thermoplastic material.
3. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein said bottom portion having portions of the front and rear walls interconnected together at contiguous portions to form a seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion.
4. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein said front and rear walls have opposite longitudinal edges joined together by an elongate seal made at a contiguous portion thereof.
5. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is a zipper lock.

6. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is a slider.
7. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is an easy-snap mechanism.
8. (Previously presented) A reclosable bag comprising:
 - a pair of gusseted sides disposed between a front wall and a rear wall, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
 - a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides,
 - the bottom portion defining a base for the stand-up orientation of the bag;
 - a reclosable device located proximate a bag opening, such that no gussets are required on an upper portion of the bag; and
 - wherein the bag is formed on a vertical form filling system.
9. (Previously presented) The reclosable bag of claim 8, further comprising front and rear walls have opposite longitudinal edges joined together by an elongate seal made at a contiguous portion thereof.
10. (Previously presented) The method of forming a self-standing reclosable package comprising:
 - providing a supply web;
 - forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;
 - forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
 - forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package;
 - attaching a reclosable device proximate the package opening, such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the package; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.

13. (Previously presented) A manufactured self-standing package containing goods having a reclosable opening, the web manufactured package formed by:

providing a supply web;

providing a packaging mechanism for placing goods within the package formed from the supply web;

forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;

forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package;

attaching a reclosable device proximate the package opening, such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the package;

filling the interior volume of the package with goods; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body enclosing goods is formed.

14. (Previously presented) The manufactured self-standing package of claim 13, wherein the packaging mechanism is a vertical form filling system.

15. (Previously presented) The manufactured self-standing package of claim 13, further comprising:

forming a seal along the bottom portion of the package, wherein portions of the front and rear walls are interconnected at contiguous portions to form the seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion; and

forming a seal along the opposite longitudinal edges of the front and rear walls, wherein the elongate seal is made at a contiguous portion thereof and runs longitudinally along the rear wall.

16. (Previously presented) The manufactured self-standing package of claim 15, further comprising covering the opening of the package to enclose the goods.

17. (Previously presented) A stand-up plastic bag, comprising:

- (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof;
- (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
- (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, and the sides configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation; and
- (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag; and

18. (Previously presented) The stand-up bag of claim 17, wherein said bottom portion having portions of the front and rear walls interconnected together at contiguous portions to form a seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion.

19. (Previously presented) The method of forming a self-standing reclosable package comprising:

- providing a supply web;
- forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;
- forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package;

forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) A stand-up plastic bag comprising:
 - (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof;
 - (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
 - (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, and the sides configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation; and
 - (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag.
22. (New) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said front, rear and sides and said bottom portion are composed of a multi-layered film of thermoplastic material.
23. (New) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said bottom portion having portions of the front and rear walls interconnected together at contiguous portions to form a seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion.

24. (New) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said front and rear walls have opposite longitudinal edges joined together by an elongate seal made at a contiguous portion thereof.
25. (New) A method of forming a self standing package comprising:
providing a supply web;
forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;
forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package; and
wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.
26. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal.
27. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.